

Comments in regards to dropping all morse code testing for amateur licenses are wished to be considered as follows:

I am licensed as K5OO amateur extra class. I work as a volunteer in local government as an emergency volunteer responder. I feel that it is very beneficial to retain some level of morse code testing in the amateur program in the United States. I feel it could be very beneficial for many reasons.

1) Much of the spectrum is set aside for morse code operations. 2) It is certain that it is more efficient and readable under poor conditions when voice operations are unreadable. 3) To retain a universal language that is more universally understood than vocal language. 4) Retain some incentive to propagate the learning effort of the morse code. 5) Simple transceivers can be constructed or repaired much easier that can operate in CW that those that operate phone. Under dire circumstances, this could prove to be a crucial solution. They consume and require much less power, require no complicated infrastructures such as computers, much smaller and less weight, and much more rugged.

There are many more important reasons too numerous to mention why we should retain an amateur capable of this skill. Please consider a few of the important points listed while making your decisions.

Sincerely, Mark A. Graves
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